

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Georgian SSR; Transcaucasia) REPORT

SUBJECT 1. The Trust for Construction of Metallurgical Plants in Transcaucasia DATE DISTR. 14 August 1959

2. Miscellaneous Information on Kutaisi and Tskhaltubo (Key sketch of area) NO. PAGES 2

3. (Civil Defense Shelters) REFERENCES 50X1-HUM

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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1. The following two reports dealing with the Transcaucasian area

Attachment 1: A three-page report on the Trust for Construction of Metallurgical Plants in Transcaucasia. The trust was established about 1947, to include the Transcaucasian region (i.e., the Georgian, Armenian, and Azerbaydzhan SSR's). The report describes the organization of the trust, mentions that it constructed the Rustavi Metallurgical Plant (some details furnished), and names three trust officials (including the director, Semen Markovich Fisher).

2. Attachment 2: A seven-page report entitled "Miscellaneous Information on Kutaisi and Tskhaltubo," plus a legend and sketch map of Kutaisi. On Kutaisi (N 42-15, E 42-40), the report mentions the following plants: Kutaisi Truck Factory, Gornyak Mine Equipment Factory, silk combine, chemical plant (manufactured paints), and a glass factory. The last-named had an air-tight shelter beneath the building. The report goes on to discuss power, medical and air transport facilities, and civil defense. On Tskhaltubo (N 42-20, E 42-36) the report gives information on local health resorts and civil defense. In 1955 an asphalt road connecting the towns was opened.

2. The following is all that is included on civil defense in the two reports:

Kutaisi: All public buildings, whether they be factories, offices, or housing projects, are required by law to have underground shelters. The shelters must be built no less than four or five meters deep. The ceiling is usually 50 cm thick and constructed of reinforced concrete, in accordance with standard safety measures. The shelters are equipped with doors to safeguard the occupants from poison gas as well as atomic radiation. The

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shelter is designated on building plans as "basement floor" (Tsokolnyy Etazh) or as "basement apartment" (Podvalnoye Pomescheniye). No building permit is issued unless a shelter is included in the building plans. In contrast to the strict orders for shelters in all large buildings under construction, nothing is known of the existence of public shelters in the center of Kutaisi or anywhere else in the town.

Tskhaltubo: In 1956 a series of lectures was given to the civilian population of the town of Tskhaltubo on the properties of atomic weapons and ways to protect against them. The lectures were held by a military officer, who demonstrated with the aid of sketches and drawings. The audience got the impression that the lectures were given for their calming psychological effect, as emphasis was repeatedly put on the fact that one can protect oneself against atomic radiation and that there was no need for panic in case of attack. It was stressed that one must keep calm and obey the instructions which would be issued.

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Kutaisi

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1. Kutaisi (N 42-15, E 42-40), with about 100,000 inhabitants, is the second largest city in the Georgian SSR. Until 1953 Kutaisi was a provincial capital, but since the abolition of the province, it has become a district center of the Imeritinskaya Oblast.

2. The following industrial plants are located in Kutaisi:

a. Kutaisi Truck Factory (Kutaiskiy Autozavod).

Coming from Tskhaltubo (N 42-20, E 42-36), the plant is situated two or three km before the Kutaisi II railroad station, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ km off the left side of the tracks.

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b. Gorniak Mine Equipment Factory, located near the Kutaisi II railroad station. This factory, which manufactures excavators and various mining machinery, is of national importance as it supplies equipment to all parts of the USSR. Near the factory there are housing projects (Rabochiy Gorodok) for the plant workers.

c. A silk combine (Sholko Sukonniy Kombinat), situated on the bank of the Rioni River which crosses Kutaisi, near the intersection of the railroad line with the river.

d. A chemical plant (Krasochniy Zavod), which manufactures mineral paints.

e. Steklotar Glass Factory, which is situated about five km from the Kutaisi II railroad station. Under the building there is a large ventilated shelter, with special air-cleaning devices. The shelter is equipped with special doors to make it airtight.

3. The following are details on public facilities in Kutaisi:

a. The Kutaisi I railroad station, located in the center of town, serves as a terminal for Tbilisi trains.

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The station occupies a one-story building. The groundfloor, reached by means of stairs, contains a civilian waiting room, booking offices, a restaurant, barber shop and police station.

b. The Kutaisi II railroad station, housed in a one-story building, serves as a terminal for Moscow trains.

c. The Kutaisi civilian airport is located between the truck factory and the road from Tskhaltubo. [REDACTED]

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4. Both Kutaisi and Tskhaltubo are supplied with electricity by the hydroelectric power station situated near the Rioni railroad station, about 30 km from Kutaisi on the road to Tbilisi. There is also a thermal power station in Kutaisi, which is held in reserve in case of a breakdown in the Rioni station.

5. There is no television station in Kutaisi and nothing is known of any plans to erect one.

6. The following medical institutions are reported:

a. The city hospital (Gorbolnitsa), which contains a contagious diseases ward, is located in the vicinity of the Kutaisi I railroad station.

b. A hospital is located on the grounds of the truck factory. It is intended for the factory employees, but admits other patients as well.

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c. A military hospital (No. 7) is located in the vicinity of the Kutaisi prison, near the market (Pianniy Bazar), on the banks of the Rioni River.

7. All public buildings, whether they be factories, offices, or housing projects, are required by law to have underground shelters. The shelters must be built no less than four or five meters deep. The ceiling is usually 50 cm thick and constructed of reinforced concrete, in accordance with standard safety measures. The shelters are equipped with doors to safeguard the occupants from poison gas as well as atomic radiation. The shelter is designated on building plans as "basement floor" (Tsokolniy Etazh) or as "basement apartment" (Podvalnoye Pomesheche). No building permit is issued unless a shelter is included in the building plans. In contrast to the strict orders for shelters in all large buildings under construction, nothing is known of the existence of public shelters in the center of Kutaisi or anywhere else in the town.

8. A large meadow, situated one km from Kutaisi, serves as a military landing strip; it is on the left-hand side of the road to Tskhaltubo and extends in the direction of the truck

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factory. The airfield, used by piston engine planes of all sizes, has no buildings and no surfaced runways.

9. Until 1955 Kutaisi was connected with Tskhaltubo by a winding road through the mountains. In late 1955 a new road was opened, leading from the Tskhaltubo railroad station to Stalin Street in Kutaisi and running parallel to the railroad tracks. The new road, about 11 m wide, is straight and asphalt-surfaced. A bus line connecting the two towns runs along this road.

Tskhaltubo

10. Tskhaltubo, a rayon center (Rayonniy Tsentr), is a well-known health resort, famous for its hot springs. The town has about 10,000 inhabitants, most of whom make their living from the vacationing trade.

11. Tskhaltubo contains rest homes for workers of many different types - coal miners, builders, artisans, metallurgists, and the like. In 1956 a rest home of the Ministry for the Metal Industry (Ministerstvo Chornoy Metalurgii) was opened in Tskhaltubo. Its construction had started in 1949 and it was intended to accommodate 150 guests. A later change in the plans increased the capacity to 220 people, by cutting

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down on comfort and space per capita. The rest home, a large three-story structure, cost 45 million rubles to construct. Next to it, living quarters were erected for its personnel, including doctors and nurses.

12. A military leave camp is also located in Tskhaltubo, which completely self-contained. In 1954-1955 Marshall Bulganin, who was then Minister of Defense, spent his leave at this camp.

13. The local authorities of Tskhaltubo, such as the municipal council (Gorsoviet), the rayon Party committee (Raykom) and the rayon MVD directorate, are all located on the main street called Lenina Street (formerly Stalina), and are concentrated on Stalin Square.

14. There is a 25-bed district hospital in Tskhaltubo, but serious cases are treated in the hospital in Kutaisi.

15. Near the town there are large tea plantations extending along the entire length of the road to Kutaisi.

16. In 1956 a series of lectures was given to the civilian population of the town on the properties of atomic weapons and ways to protect against them. The lectures were held by a military officer, who demonstrated with the aid of sketches

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and drawings. The audience got the impression that the lectures were given for their calming psychological effect, as emphasis was repeatedly put on the fact that one can protect oneself against atomic radiation and that there was no need for panic in case of attack. It was stressed that one must keep calm and obey the instructions which would be issued.

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Attachment to [REDACTED]

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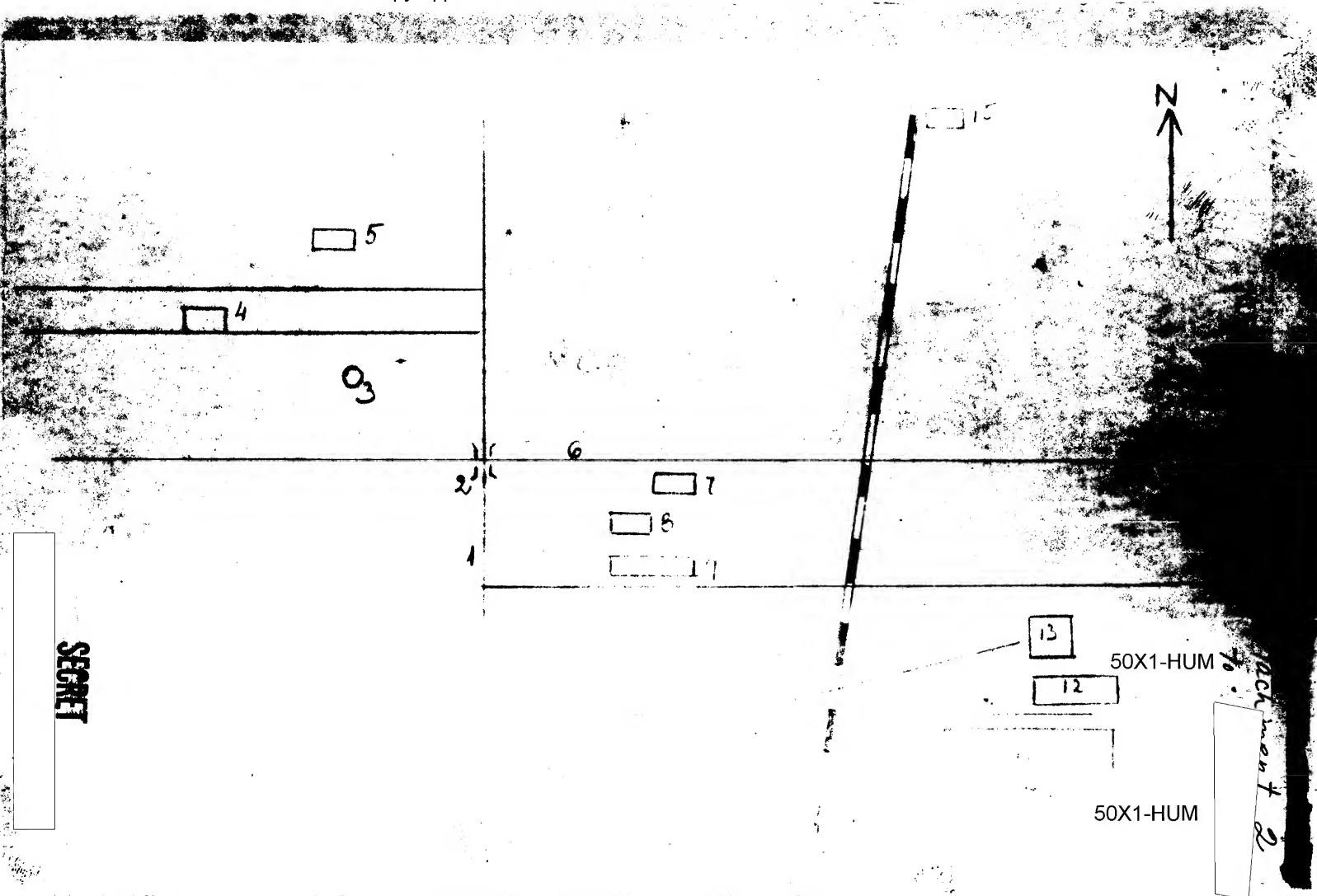
Legend to Sketch Map of Kutaisi

1. Lenina Street
2. The Red Bridge
3. Ploshchad Stalina
4. City MVD directorate
5. Municipal council (Gorsovet) and city Party committee (Gorkom)
6. Rioni River
7. Military hospital
8. Prison
9. Market (Pianniy Bazar)
10. Kutaisi I railroad station
11. Civilian airport
12. Truck factory
13. Gorniak Mine Equipment Factory
14. Steklotar Glass Factory
15. Kutaisi II railroad station

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1. The Trust for Construction of Metallurgical Plants in Trans-Caucasia was established in c. 1947, the Trans-Caucasian region including the Armenian, Georgian and Azerbaydzhan SSR's. The head office of the trust is housed in a group of huts in the center of Rustavi (N 41-33, E 45-03). The trust is subordinate to the Soviet Ministry of the Metal Industry (Ministerstvo Metalurgicheskoy Promishlennosti).

2. The management of the trust is composed of the following departments:

a. Technical production department (Proizvodstvenno Tekhnicheskiy Otdel).

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- b. Housing construction department (Kommunalniy Otdel).
- c. Technical supply department (Otdel Technicheskovo Snabzhenia).
- d. Special department (Spets. Otdel).
- e. Planning and economic department (Planovo-Ekonomicheskiy Otdel).
- f. Financial department (Finansoviy Otdel).
- g. Personnel department (Otdel Kadrov).
- h. Chief engineer's department (Otdel Glavnogo Inzhenera).
- i. Chief mechanic's department (Otdel Glavnogo Mekhanika).
- j. Accounting department (Glavnaya Bukhgalteriya).

3. The trust constructed the Rustavi Metallurgical Plant (Rustavskiy Metalurgicheskiy Zavod), which employs approximately 20,000 workers. A town of some 50,000 inhabitants has been built around the plant. The plant process ferrous metals which are brought from Azerbaydzhan. The coal used by the plant is brought from Tkibuli (N 42-22, E 42-59) and Tkvarcheli (N 42-51, E 41-41).

4. During the period 1953-1956 the trust constructed a rest home in Tskhaltubo (N 42-20, E 42-36) for the employees of the Rustavi Metallurgical Plant. Living quarters for the staff working at the rest home were also erected there.

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5. The following individuals are employed with the trust:

a. Semion Markovich Fisher, director of the planning department,

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b. Galvanadze (fmu), director of the financial department

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c. Mikiladze (fmu), director of the trust, is a member of the Georgian Central Party Committee and a delegate to the Supreme Soviet.

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